

the sanctions relief will go to the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, which provides funding and training to terrorist groups like Hezbollah and Hamas. The Revolutionary Guard Corps is also responsible for supporting Shia militias that killed American troops and are currently fueling sectarian tensions in Iraq.

Like most of my colleagues in Congress, I opposed the Iranian deal and continue to believe it will not guarantee a nuclear weapons-free Iran.

But the simple fact that this deal has moved forward should not be an excuse for allowing sanctions relief to benefit terrorists.

Yesterday the House passed a commonsense bill that prohibits President Obama from removing sanctions on foreign financial institutions that are doing business with Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps. I urge immediate adoption of this legislation.

We also need to deal with the victims of Iran's terrorism—Americans who were subject to terrorism by Iranian actions. Out of the \$150 billion, up to \$40 billion of awarded money should be received by these people because of this action.

The Obama administration has already made too many of these concessions. We can still prevent sanctions relief from ending up in the pockets of terrorists.

THE CORPUS CHRISTI CROSS

(Mr. FARENTHOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, last weekend I attended the groundbreaking of the tallest cross in the Western Hemisphere and the second tallest cross in the world that is going to be built in Corpus Christi, Texas, my hometown, by the Abundant Life Fellowship under the leadership of Pastor Rick Milby.

Wrought of five-eighths inch cold-rolled steel, the Corpus Christi cross will be visible for miles along Interstate 37 and to flights coming into and departing from the Corpus Christi International Airport. Standing at 210 feet tall, and possibly taller, depending on fund-raising success, the Corpus Christi cross will be the largest cross on this side of the Atlantic Ocean.

Corpus Christi is the perfect setting for the tallest cross in the Western Hemisphere because Corpus Christi, translated from Latin, means "the body of Christ." The cross, a symbol of hope, will be located directly across Interstate 37 from the Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery. What better location is there for a reminder that Christ died for our sins than next to the resting place of those who fought for our freedom.

Good work, Pastor Milby, Abundant Life Fellowship, and everybody else in Corpus Christi supporting this project. God bless you all.

DEFENDING THE UNBORN

(Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, last month Washington, D.C. was home to the March for Life, and thousands of Americans came from all across the country to attend it. The State of Louisiana was disproportionately represented with hundreds of folks from our State, Louisiana being one of the most pro-life States in the Nation, one of the highest percentages of churchgoers, and one of the highest percentages of believers in America.

The term "sanctity of life" gets thrown around a lot when we start talking about pro-life versus pro-choice in political debate, but it is more than a slogan. Its relevance transcends the issue of life in our country.

Human dignity is the foundational principle of freedom and human flourishing. A substantive application of the sanctity of life should inform all our efforts in this Chamber, on both sides of the aisle.

I am pro-life because I believe that all human beings, at every stage of life, every state of consciousness or self-awareness are of equal and immeasurable worth and dignity.

I applaud and join the efforts of my colleagues to defend the unborn, those who can't defend themselves, but I also call upon both political parties to respect and value the dignity of human existence at all stages of life, from the womb all the way to life's natural conclusion. I believe we all have an obligation to the fundamental principle of human dignity.

As we consider important issues like criminal justice reform, the War on Poverty—policies designed to help people improve their quality of life—let us engage in political debates with this in mind.

DEMANDING ACTION TO CRACK DOWN ON VISA OVERSTAYS

(Mr. MARCHANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, according to a recent report by the Department of Homeland Security, nearly 500,000 foreign nationals overstayed their visa in fiscal year 2015. This is unacceptable and dangerous. These people are breaking the law, and they have violated the trust of the American people.

Visa overstay is an ongoing failure by this administration. Approximately 12 million illegal immigrants now live in our country. An estimated 40 percent can be attributed to visa overstay. Now there are a half million more.

ISIS is working tirelessly to exploit our national security weakness. Meanwhile, the administration is turning a

blind eye to the vast majority of visa overstay.

Half a million foreign nationals overstayed their visas last year, but less than 1 percent of that group is currently being investigated. I have written Secretary Johnson to demand that immediate action be taken to crack down on these visa overstay. This issue poses a clear risk to our safety and the safety of my constituents.

□ 1230

THANK YOU TO FAMILY FIRST CENTER

(Mr. DOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Family First Center in Waukegan, Illinois, for their contributions to the Toys for Tots program.

The Toys for Tots program, as you know, was created by the U.S. Marine Corps. Each and every year, they collect toys to distribute to less fortunate children during the holidays.

The Family First Center of Lake County, under the direction of Dr. Evelyn Chenier, has been a huge partner with the Toys for Tots program. Just last year, they distributed nearly 75,000 toys to over 19,000 children in the Lake County community.

Toys for Tots is just one of the numerous programs with which the Family First Center is involved. For example, last summer, I hosted a job fair with the Family First Center that helped connect job seekers in Lake County with many of the businesses that call our community home.

The Family First Center's success is an inspirational example of a community organization putting families first and bringing about positive change in our community. I offer my sincere thanks to the Family First Center and Dr. Chenier for their leadership to strengthen our community.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 3, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 3, 2016 at 11:02 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2306.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.